Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING AUGUST 1

Another week of extreme heat kept crops and livestock under stress. Soil conditions are very dry in many areas of the state from lack of precipitation, according to the Indiana Agricultural Statistics Service. Corn and soybean condition continues to decline. Pastures and forage crops have also deteriorated from the recent hot temperatures. Major activities during the week included equipment repair, baling hay, selling grain, spraying, monitoring fields for insects, mowing roads and pastures, attending fairs and care of livestock.

CORN

Corn condition declined from last week with 38 percent of the crop rated good to excellent compared with 65 percent at this time last year. Ninety-eight percent of the corn crop has **silked** compared with 82 percent last year and 73 percent for the 5-year average. Thirty-three percent of the corn crop has reached the **dough** stage compared with 22 percent last year and 13 percent for the average. By region 30 percent of the corn acreage is in the dough stage in the north, 34 percent in the central and 35 percent in the south.

SOYBEANS

Soybean **condition** also declined from last week and is rated 43 percent good to excellent compared with 66 percent last year. Ninety-five percent of the soybean acreage is **blooming** compared with 76 percent last year and the 5-year average of 73 percent. Fifty-three percent of the soybean acreage is **setting pods** compared with 34 percent last year and 25 percent for average. By region, 55 percent of the soybean acreage is setting pods in both the northern and central regions, and 44 percent in the south.

OTHER CROPS

Pasture condition declined from last week and was rated 2 percent excellent, 14 percent good, 38 percent fair, 33 percent poor and 13 percent very poor. Third cutting of **alfalfa** hay is 30 percent complete. Topping of tobacco is underway.

DAYS SUITABLE and SOIL MOISTURE

For the week ending Friday, 6.8 days were rated **suitable for fieldwork** . **Topsoil moisture** was rated 40 percent very short, 39 percent short and 21 percent adequate. **Subsoil moisture** was rated 32 percent very short, 42 percent short and 26 percent adequate.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg
	Percent			
Corn Silking	98	92	82	73
Corn in Dough	33	15	22	13
Soybeans Blooming	95	92	76	73
Soybeans Podding	53	38	34	25
Alfalfa, Third Cutting	30	NA	NA	NA

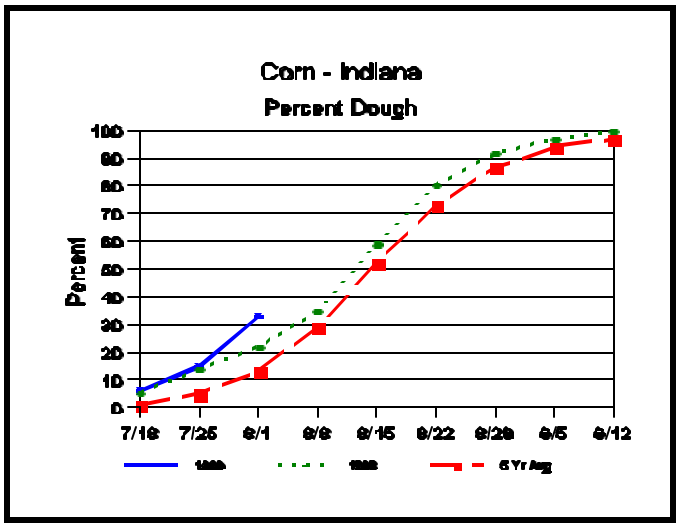
CROP CONDITION

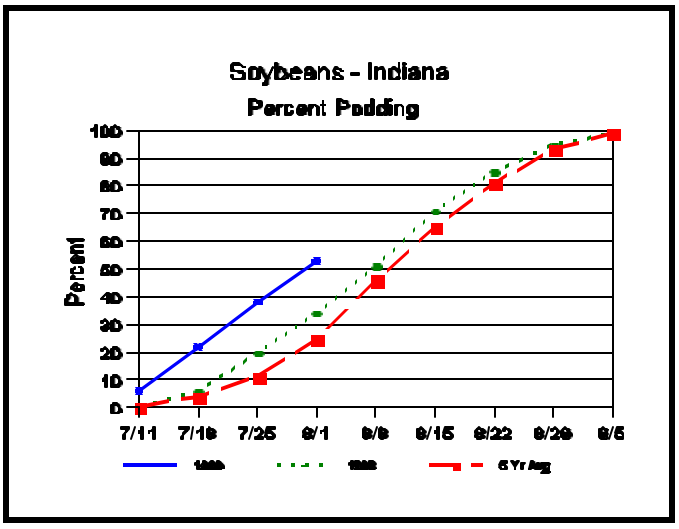
Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excel-lent
	Percent				
Corn	7	19	36	30	8
Soybeans	5	14	38	34	9
Pasture	13	33	38	14	2

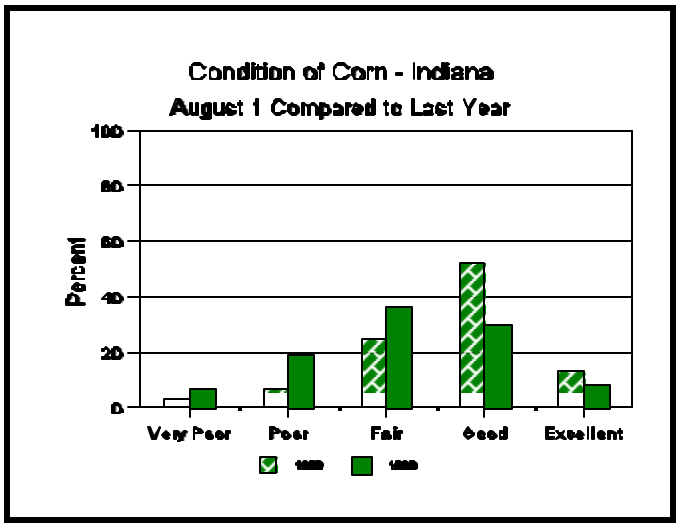
SOIL MOISTURE

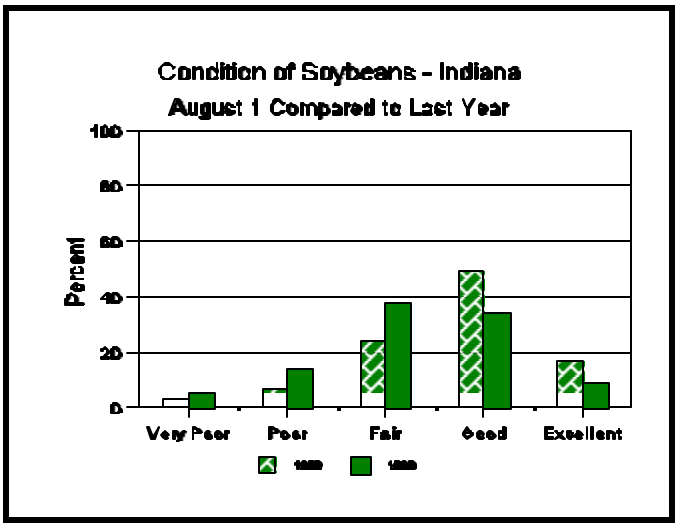
	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
	Percent		
Topsoil			
Very Short	40	21	3
Short	39	44	15
Adequate	21	34	72
Surplus	0	1	10
Subsoil			
Very Short	32	14	2
Short	42	49	13
Adequate	26	37	75
Surplus	0	0	10

--Ralph W. Gann, State Statistician
--Bud Bever, Agricultural Statistician
E-Mail Address: nass-in@nass.usda.gov
http://info.aes.purdue.edu/agstat/nass.html









Beetle Monitoring, The Only Way to Make Informed Treatment Decisions for 2000

- Western corn rootworm beetle numbers are active throughout Indiana
- Though thresholds are not available, sampling soybean fields now for beetle presence and densities may prevent the use of insecticides for next year's corn
- Sampling doesn't require the use of nets or traps, visual inspections can be effective in assessing relative beetle numbers
- Some other considerations are given

In the last several years, tremendous amounts of time, effort and money have been devoted to studying the western corn rootworm variant (causes damage to first-year corn) to understand why it is found in soybean and to develop an economic threshold for the next season's corn crop. The frustrating thing to university researchers and producers is that studying a biological organism, especially as it interacts with biotic and abiotic conditions takes time (i.e., years!) before actions/damage can be predicted with an acceptable degree of certainty. Regardless, there are some very common sense approaches that producers can take before deciding on using rootworm insecticides next spring; but they have to be taken now!

Ron Blackwell, IPM Surveyor, is actively sweeping soybean fields throughout the state to sample for western corn rootworm beetle populations. So far, he has found very few beetles in southern Indiana.

Larry Bledsoe, Cory Gerber, and Dwain Rule (all actively conducting research on this problem) have seen the western corn rootworm variant making its move from corn to soybean fields. Knowledge of beetle numbers in soybean helps one to gauge the potential risk of rootworm damage to next year's corn. Few beetles means low risk, thus little need for

(Continued on Page 4.)

Weather Data

Week ending Sunday August 1, 1999

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation April 1, 1999 thru August 1, 1999				
	Air Temperature				Precip.		Avg 4 in Soil	Precipitation		GDD Base 50°F		
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest(1)												
Valparaiso_Ag	99	68	81	+9	0.37	4		15.78	-0.38	48	2033	+317
Wanatah	99	59	78	+7	0.62	2	87	16.82	+1.10	49	1766	+127
Wheatfield	99	66	82	+11	1.42	2		20.95	+5.60	43	2068	+382
Winamac	98	69	82	+10	0.80	2		15.01	-0.36	39	2072	+323
North Central(2)												
Logansport	100	68	83	+10	1.15	3		15.74	+0.92	51	2100	+312
Plymouth	102	67	82	+9	1.35	3		17.85	+1.77	50	2040	+215
South_Bend	102	68	83	+11	0.06	1		13.57	-1.51	40	2124	+425
Young_America	M I S S I N G											
Northeast(3)												
Bluffton	102	67	82	+9	0.85	4	87	11.53	-3.58	42	2122	+290
Fort_Wayne	100	67	83	+10	0.34	3		12.33	-1.64	45	2093	+310
West Central(4)												
Crawfordsville	99	66	82	+9	0.47	3	82	13.09	-3.72	49	1961	+29
Perrysville	95	69	81	+8	1.27	3	88	14.81	-1.92	47	2130	+236
Terre_Haute_Ag	102	71	85	+10	0.44	2	83	15.81	-1.17	51	2387	+369
W_Lafayette_6NW	99	68	82	+9	0.61	2	89	16.71	+1.32	47	2140	+352
Central(5)												
Castleton	100	72	84	+10	0.05	2		15.00	-1.44	56	2206	+227
Greenfield	102	70	84	+10	0.26	2		12.24	-5.11	51	2190	+281
Indianapolis_AP	99	70	84	+9	0.16	2		13.65	-2.15	49	2329	+330
Indianapolis_SE	100	71	84	+9	0.23	3		12.96	-3.48	54	2131	+152
Tipton_Ag	98	67	81	+9	0.96	3	79	12.72	-2.86	43	1959	+225
East Central(6)												
Farmland	98	66	81	+10	1.65	2	79	15.09	-0.28	51	2070	+384
New_Castle	96	67	80	+8	2.15	3		14.52	-2.38	51	1894	+170
Southwest(7)												
Dubois_Ag	100	67	83	+9	0.02	1	92	17.37	-0.78	46	2299	+273
Evansville	98	71	84	+7	0.01	1		17.98	+1.56	48	2490	+146
Freelandville	99	73	84	+9	0.00	0		20.06	+3.05	45	2293	+204
Shoals	100	69	84	+9	0.04	1		16.55	-1.87	41	2201	+193
Vincennes_5NE	100	69	84	+9	0.16	2	85	19.06	+2.05	60	2375	+286
South Central(8)												
Bloomington	100	69	85	+10	0.09	1		14.55	-2.58	43	2326	+284
Tell_City	102	74	88	+11	0.00	0		15.75	-2.72	42	2544	+320
Southeast(9)												
Butlerville	101	70	84	+9	0.23	3	84	15.04	-1.75	55	2252	+176
Scottsburg	103	68	85	+10	0.06	1		13.31	-3.97	39	2386	+314

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).
GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
Precipitation Days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.
Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

The above weather information is provided by AWIS, Inc.
For detailed ag weather forecasts and data visit the AWIS home page at
www.awis.com or call toll free at 1-888-798-9955.

rootworm protection next year. Many beetles means higher risk, the insecticide "insurance" will likely pay off. Several producers and agribusiness personnel throughout the state have initiated a sampling program for their soybean fields. Because of the variability of beetles numbers from field to field, those willing to inspect soybean now may reap the benefits next spring ..... approximately $15 per acre! Sampling for rootworm beetle in soybean fields does not require sticky traps or sweep nets, they only make the decision making more accurate. Visual inspections, while walking through the field and carefully observing the upper canopy, will help you reach a decision. Soybean fields should be visited weekly until early September.

Some considerations:

- Rootworm beetle numbers vary within the field and from field to field.
- Rootworm beetles will be attracted to late planted/replanted crops or weeds for pollen, their favorite food. These areas ("trap crops") should be monitored separately.
- Don't sample soybean fields within a 100 feet of corn, some beetles naturally "over-flow" into soybean.

Western corn rootworm beetle feeding on a soybean leaf

–John Obermeyer, Rich Edwards, and Larry Bledsoe, Purdue University

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